

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 H-02 PA-02

PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00

XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 /108 W

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R 281100Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8736

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS PRAGUE 2196

VIENNA FOR AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, CZ

SUBJECT: SPOT REPORT ON GRAIN HARVEST

REF: VIENNA 6803

1. OFFICIAL PRESS AUGUST 26 AND 27, CARRIED REPORTS THAT TEN PERCENT OF NATION'S 1975 GRAIN CROP (12 PERCENT IN CZECH LANDS, 8-9 PERCENT IN SLOVAKIA) REMAINS TO BE HARVESTED, A PACE WELL AHEAD OF 1975 WHEN ONLY 61 PERCENT OF FIELDS IN CZECH LANDS HAD BEEN CUT BY THIS TIME. MOST OF GRAIN STILL STANDING IS IN MOUNTAINOUS REGIONS.

2. RAINY WEATHER HAS CONVERGED ON MANY PARTS OF COUNTRY IN PAST FEW DAYS SLOWING HARVESTING OPERATIONS SOMEWHAT; AND EARLIER A REPORT APPEARED IN SVOBODNE SLOVO NOTING THAT DURING SPAN OF ONE WEEK TWO MILLION CZECH CROWNS (\$205,000 AT TOURIST EXCHANGE RATE) WORTH OF STANDING GRAIN HAD BEEN DESTROYED BY RANDOM FIRES IN FIELDS. DESPITE THESE NEGATIVE NOTES,
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NATION'S HARVEST DOES SEEM TO BE PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY

AND ALTHOUGH NO OVERALL TONNAGE FIGURE WAS CITED IN ABOVE
REPORTS, GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO BE STICKING WITH ITS EARLIER
ESTIMATE OF 10.3 MILLION TONS FOR HARVESTED GRAIN THIS YEAR,
WHICH IF REALIZED WOULD REPRESENT A FALL-OFF OF ONLY THREE
PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR'S REPORTED BUMPER CROP OF 10.6 MILLION
TONS.
PERRY

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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